

Abstract

A fuel cell system management method, wherein a reformer is provided for supplying hydrogen-containing reformed gas to the fuel cell unit (1) and a compressor (4) is provided for supplying air to said fuel cell unit (1). The fuel cell unit (1) consists of cells arranged in  $N_{\text{mod}}$  modules. Voltages are measured across the terminals of each cell of each module (2, 3) of the cell unit (1), and the voltage difference between the mean cell voltage  $U_{\text{cell}}$  for the cell unit and a predetermined mean cell voltage  $U_{\text{cell}}^0$  is calculated. Said voltage difference  $U_{\text{cell}} - U_{\text{cell}}^0$  is compared with a predetermined threshold voltage difference  $\Delta U_{\text{seuil}}$ , and the presence or absence of carbon monoxide poisoning in the fuel cell unit (1) is determined on the basis of said comparison.